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## WIRELINE COMPETITION BUREAU ANNOUNCES ENTITIES UNDER CONSIDERATION AS NEXT-IN-LINE BIDDERS FOR RURAL BROADBAND EXPERIMENTS SUPPORT

WC Docket No. 10-90 WC Docket No. 14-259

On December 18, 2014, the Federal Communications Commission (Commission) established a process to enable the provisional selection of additional bidders for rural broadband experiments support in the event any of the initial provisionally selected bidders defaulted before the Wireline Competition Bureau (Bureau) finalized the list of census blocks that will be offered to the price cap carriers for Phase II of the Connect America Fund. Specifically, all bidders in the rural broadband experiments interested in being considered as next-in-line bidders were required to file, by Tuesday, January 6, 2015, their most recent three consecutive years of audited financial statements, including balance sheets, net income, and cash flow, as well as a description of the technology and system design that would be used to deliver voice and broadband service meeting the requisite speeds to all locations in the funded census blocks, including a network diagram, which must be certified by a professional engineer.

Today, the Bureau announces the entities that successfully submitted the required financial and technical information by the Commission's January  $6^{th}$  deadline. We note that this does not determine which entities ultimately may be provisionally selected as next-in-line bidders; Attachment A simply lists the entities that submitted the required information and indicated their interest in remaining under consideration by the deadline.<sup>3</sup> Provisionally selected bidders have until 11:59p.m. EST today, February  $3^{rd}$ , to file a letter from an acceptable bank committing to provide the bidder with a letter of credit. Once we determine whether any additional funding is available due to the failure of any current provisionally selected bidders to file a commitment letter by the required deadline, we will announce which among those on Attachment A now are provisionally selected bidders.

For additional information on this proceeding, contact Ian Forbes (<u>Ian.Forbes@fcc.gov</u>) of the Wireline Competition Bureau, Telecommunications Access Policy Division, (202) 418-7400.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> See Connect America Fund; ETC Annual Reports and Certifications; Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 160(c) from Obsolete ILEC Regulatory Obligations that Inhibit Deployment of Next-Generation Networks, WC Docket Nos. 10-90, 14-58, 14-192, Report and Order, FCC 14-190, para. 83 (rel. Dec. 18, 2014).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> See Wireline Competition Bureau Announces Deadline for Bidders Interested in Remaining Under Consideration for Rural Broadband Experiments Support to File Additional Information, WC Docket Nos. 10-90, 14-259, Public Notice, DA 14-1839 (Wireline Comp. Bur. rel. Dec. 18, 2014).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> This list does not include entities that successfully submitted bids, but requested a waiver of or failed to meet the Commission's requirement to file the requisite financial and technical information by the January 6<sup>th</sup> deadline.

## ATTACHMENT A

## **Potential Next-in-Line Bidders**

FRN	Entity Name
0015034358	Allband Communications Cooperative
0003746898	Allen's TV Cable Service, Inc.
0002073427	BARC Electric Cooperative
0002506384	Barry Electric Cooperative, Inc
0002477636	BEK Communications Cooperative
0015024946	Big Bend Telecom, LTD
0018928994	Callabyte Technology LLC
0002295400	City of Chanute, Kansas
0003772787	Clarence Telephone Company, Inc.
0021854278	Co-Mo Comm, Inc.
0007266703	Daktel Communications, LLC
0007690258	Delta Communications LLC
0001566306	Douglas Services, Inc.
0005420278	EPB
0001624030	Fall River Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc.
0003747722	Farmers Mutual Telephone Company
0003741576	Federated Telephone Cooperative
0023978471	French Broad Electric Membership Corporation
0018367177	Geneseo Communications Services, Inc.
0022311088	Georgia Communications Cooperative, Inc.
0003744224	Halstad Telephone Company
0005039854	Hargray of Georgia, Inc.
0024068207	Henry County REMC
0004821989	Illinois Rural Electric Cooperative
0004530812	Kit Carson Electric Cooperative
0023985237	Lake Region Technology & Communications, LLC
0023076508	Midwest Energy Cooperative dba Midwest Connections
0018562611	New Lisbon Broadband and Communications LLC
0001732742	North Arkansas Electric Cooperative Incorporative
0021320155	Northeast Rural Services, Inc.
0004364022	Northern Valley Communications, LLC
0007956725	Orcas Power and Light Cooperative
0001732718	Ozarks Electric Cooperative Corporation
0002644953	Paul Bunyan Rural Telephone Cooperative
0003800570	Plateau Telecommunications Incorporated
0021344072	PREPA Networks, LLC
0024048613	Rock County Broadband Alliance, LLC

FRN	Entity Name
0014860530	Sacred Wind Communications, Inc.
0024062309	Skybeam, LLC
0010678001	Sunset Digital Communications, Inc.
0005017298	Troy Cablevision, Inc.
0016087876	United Electric Cooperative, Inc
0024051898	Valley Electric Association, Inc.
0023997562	Volunteer Energy Cooperative
0004327219	Wabash Independent Networks Inc.
0002645612	West Central Telephone Association
0004319372	Wikstrom Telephone Company, Inc.
0011915014	Wilkes Communications, Inc